

# Biological Incidents in the United States



## 1915-16 Livestock Sabotage

Dr. Anton Dilger planned biological sabotage by infecting livestock bound for Allied forces in Europe with infectious diseases including anthrax and glanders. There is no confirmation that Dilger, a German-American physician based in Maryland, was successful.

## 1984 Rajneeshee Salmonella Attack

Followers of the Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh attempted to control a local election in Oregon by infecting the population with *Salmonella typhimurium* to prevent citizens from voting. The perpetrators contaminated restaurant salad bars, resulting in 751 cases of salmonellosis but no fatalities. This incident was the first known bioterrorist attack in the United States in the twentieth century.

## 2001 Anthrax Attack

Several cases of anthrax after the 11 September attacks killed five people, infected 22 others, and closed major sections of Capitol Hill for decontamination. The perpetrator is still unknown.